

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please consider the following amendments in place of the amendments files on October 20, 2003:

1. (Currently Amended): A method for scaling a storage library, ~~the library comprising at least one array of storage cells arranged in a horizontal plane, at least one media cartridge player and at least one robot mechanism that moves along the horizontal array and can mount cartridges from storage cells into the cartridge player and dismount cartridges from cartridge player into cartridge storage cells;~~ the method comprising at least one of the following:

increasing the horizontal width of the storage library, wherein the library comprises a plurality of horizontal storage cell arrays, wherein each horizontal storage cell array is comprised of storage cells arranged in a horizontal plane of rows and columns, at least one media cartridge player, and at least one robot mechanism that moves along a horizontal storage cell array and can dismount cartridges from storage cells to be transported to the at least one media cartridge player and mount cartridges transported from the at least one media cartridge player into cartridge storage cells; and

increasing the horizontal length of the storage library by increasing the length of the horizontal storage cell array arrays.

2. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1 8, wherein the step of increasing the horizontal width of the storage library further comprises increasing the width of the horizontal storage cell array arrays.

3. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1 8, wherein the step of increasing the horizontal width of the storage library further comprises adding banks of horizontal storage cell arrays side by side.

4. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 4 2, wherein the step of increasing the horizontal length of the storage library further comprises increasing the length of the horizontal storage cell ~~array~~ arrays.

5. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 4 2, wherein the step of increasing the horizontal length of the storage library further comprises adding horizontal storage cell arrays end to end.

6. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1, further comprising increasing the vertical height of the storage library by vertically stacking additional horizontal storage cell arrays, wherein the vertical distance between horizontal storage cell arrays is limited by the size of the at least one robot mechanism.

7. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the storage library further comprises a plurality of robot mechanisms that transport cartridges from the horizontal storage cell arrays to the at least one media cartridge player.

8. (New): A scalable storage library, comprising:  
a plurality of horizontal storage cell arrays, wherein each horizontal storage cell array is comprised of storage cells arranged in a horizontal plane of rows and columns;  
at least one media cartridge player; and  
at least one robot mechanism that moves along the horizontal storage cell array and can dismount cartridges from storage cells to be transported to the at least one media cartridge player and mount cartridges transported from the at least one media cartridge player into cartridge storage cells.

9. (New): The scalable storage library according to claim 8, wherein the plurality of horizontal storage cell arrays are supported by array trays.

10. (New): The scalable storage library according to claim 9, wherein at least two array trays are hooked together to form a group of trays.

11. (New): The scalable storage library according to claim 8, further comprising a plurality of robot mechanisms that transport cartridges from the horizontal storage cell arrays to the at least one media cartridge player.

12. (New): The scalable storage library according to claim 8, wherein at least a subset of the plurality of horizontal storage cell arrays are vertically stacked.

13. (New): The scalable storage library according to claim 8, wherein the vertical distance between horizontal storage cell arrays is limited by the size of the at least one robot mechanism.